

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 11279 162006Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 170

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1447

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ETUC

SUBJECT: ETUC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ENDORSES HINTERSCHIED

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: LUXEMBOURG CGT LEADER MATHIAS HINTERSCHIED WILL BE THE "OFFICIAL" CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL SECRETARY AT THE TUC'S CONGRESS NEXT APRIL. THE DECISION WAS MADE AT THE DECEMBER 13 MEETING OF THE ETUC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WHICH ALSO DECIDED TO APPOINT ICFTU ECONOMIST

PETER COLDERICK AS ETUC ASSISTANT SECRETARY REPLACING THE LATE ALFRED MISSLIN. PEER CARLSEN WILL SERVE AS ACTING ETUC GENERAL SECRETARY UNTIL ELECTIONS ARE HELD. THE QUESTION OF FRENCH CGT MEMBERSHIP
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 11279 162006Z

WAS NOT DISCUSSED AT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. ON DECEMBER 13 THE ETUC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED MATHIAS HINTERSCHIED OF THE LUXEMBOURG CGT TO BE THE NEXT GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ETUC. THE ACTION CAME AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL OF FABRIZIA BADUEL GORIOSO, INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ITALIAN CISL, WHOSE NOMINATION HAD BEEN ADVANCE JOINTLY BY THE CISL, CGIL AND UIL OF ITALY. HER SHORT-LIVED CANDIDACY WAS SEEN AS MORE A DEMONSTRATION OF ITALIAN TRADE UNION SOLIDARITY THAN A SERIOUS BID FOR THE SECRETARY GENERALSHIP. HINTERSCHIED IS EXPECTED TO BE ELECTED WITHOUT OPPOSITION AT THE ETUC CONGRESS IN LONDON NEXT APRIL. PEER CARLSEN WILL SERVE AS ACTING ETUC GENERAL SECRETARY UNTIL THE CONGRESS.

3. HINTERSCHIED WILL REPLACE THEO RASSCHAERT WHOSE RESIGNATION BECAME EFFECTIVE ON DECEMBER 12. RASSCHAERT WILL HEAD THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES OFFICE IN MOGADISCIO BEGINNING IN JANUARY.

4. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ALSO DECIDED TO APPOINT PETER COLDERICK AS ONE OF THREE ASSISTANT SECRETARIES ON THE ETUC SECRETARIAT, FILLING A VACANCY CREATED BY THE DEATH EARLIER THIS YEAR OF ALFRED MISSLIN OF THE FRENCH F.O. COLDERICK IS PRESENTLY AN ICFTU STAFF ECONOMIST. HIS APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY WAS PROPOSED BY THE BRITISH TUC, HIS PARENT ORGANIZATION.

5. ACCORDING TO CARLSEN, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT AT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING THAT JEAN KULAKOWSKI SHOULD BE THE NEXT DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ETUC REPLACING CARLSEN WHO HAS DECIDED TO RETURN TO THE DANISH LO AFTER THE ETUC CONGRESS RATHER THAN SEEK REELECTION. HOWEVER, CARLSEN TOLD US THAT THE COMMITTEE STOPPED SHORT OF ENDORSING KULAKOWSKI BECAUSE THERE ARE STILL POCKETS OF OPOSITION TO ELEVATING A CHRISTIAN TRADE UNIONIST TO A TOP POST. KULAKOWSKI IS THE FORMER HEAD OF THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION OF THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (EO-WCL) AND HAS SERVED AS AN ETUC SECRETARY SINCE APRIL 1974 WHEN THE EO-WCL WAS DISSOLVED AND ITS AFFILIATES WERE ADMITTED TO THE ETUC.

6. CARLSEN ALSO TOLD US THAT THE QUESTION OF FRENCH CGT MEMBERSHIP WAS NOT DISCUSSED AT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ALTHOUGH HE PLANS TO SUBMIT A LIST OF QUESTIONS TO THE CGT (SEE REFTEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEGUY-VETTER MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, PROBABLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 EC BRU 11279 162006Z

IN MARCH. ONE OF THOSE QUESTIONS WILL PERTAIN TO THE CGT'S STATUS WITH THE COMMUNIST WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS. CARLSEN SAID THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT THE CGT MEMBERSHIP ISSUE WILL BE DEALT WITH UNTIL SOMETIME AFTER THE ETUC CONGRESS. HE ADDED THAT NONE OF THE ETUC'S MAJOR AFFILIATES ARE ACTIVELY PUSHING FOR CGT AFFILIATION AT THIS TIME.

7. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ETUC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL BE

HELD ON FEBRUARY 27. MORRIS

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